



**Calendar Year 2004
Grants Competition and Grant Renewal
Key Activities and Dates**

The Legal Services Corporation (LSC) awards grants for the provision of civil legal services to low-income persons. LSC funding is awarded through a system of competition, pursuant to LSC's competitive bidding regulation, 45 C.F.R. §1634, and LSC's appropriations act. Eligible applicants for LSC funding include nonprofit organizations that have as a purpose the provision of legal assistance to eligible clients, private attorneys, groups of private attorneys or law firms, state or local governments, and substate regional planning and coordination agencies.

LSC evaluates each applicant's proposed legal services delivery approach based on widely recognized quality standards, such as the American Bar Association Standards for the Providers of Civil Legal Services to the Poor and the LSC Performance Criteria. LSC's selection criteria are detailed in 45 C.F.R. §1634.9. Pursuant to the statute and regulation, LSC's competitive review process prohibits preference to current or previous recipients of LSC funds.

LSC publishes the notice of the availability of funds in the Federal Register and with state bar association's, newspapers, law schools, and recipients of LSC funding. To apply for funding, applicants must file a Notice of Intent to Compete, and submit a complete grant application responsive to the RFP.

Information updates regarding the 2004 grants competition and 2004 grant renewal process are posted at www.ain.lsc.gov - the Applicant Information Network (AIN). Applicants are requested to visit the AIN regularly to remain current on competition and grant renewal activities.

LSC will establish a service desk to respond to information requests and inquiries about the grants competition and renewal process. The service desk will begin operation April 25, 2003. Contact the service desk by email at competition@lsc.gc. Responses to inquiries will be returned by email.

Below are key dates and activities related to the 2004 grants competition and grant renewal process:

Key Competition Activities and Dates:

	Activity	Date
1	LSC will publish the list of states and the respective time track for filing the grant proposal at www.ain.lsc.gov .	March 28
2	LSC will publish the list of competed service areas, by state, at www.ain.lsc.gov , and in the Federal Register.	April 18
3	LSC will publish the RFP (Request for Proposals) at www.ain.lsc.gov .	April 25
4	LSC will conduct the Applicant Informational Session. (This is a free telephonic conference provided by LSC to assist applicants in preparing the grant application)	May 21
5	Applicant deadline for filing the Notice of Intent to Compete (NIC). (The NIC must be filed electronically. Access the NIC at www.ain.lsc.gov).	May 23
6	LSC will publish the listing of applicants that filed a qualified NIC (www.ain.lsc.gov)	May 30
7	LSC will publish the listing of applicants that filed a qualified grant application at www.ain.lsc.gov .	September 2003
8	LSC will publish grant decisions at www.ain.lsc.gov	December 2003

Key Grant Renewal Activities and Dates:

	Activity	Date
1	LSC will notify grantees by e-mail about preparing and submitting the grant renewal application.	June 6
2	LSC will Publish the Grant Renewal Application at www.rin.lsc.gov	July 8
3	Applicant deadline for filing grant renewal applications.	August 11
4	LSC will publish grant renewal funding decisions at www.ain.lsc.gov	December 2003